Executive Committee for Highway Safety Lane Departure Working Group Meeting Minutes June 22, 2005 – Mtg. #7

Location:

Transportation Management Center Conference Room, 1:00 p.m.

Committee Members in Attendance:

Steve Varnedoe Rob Foss Roger Thomas Jimmy Eatmon

Reuben Moore Cliff Braam

Scribe:

Cliff Braam

Minutes:

• The meeting began at approximately 1:00 p.m.

Task I – Selection of WG Chair

Cliff discussed the need to have someone take on the role of Co-Chair for the working group to assist in putting together meeting agendas, conducting the meetings, organizing strategies and taking minutes for the meetings.

No volunteers stepped forward. Cliff will discuss with the Steve and a co-chair will be appointed prior to the next meeting.

Task II – Advanced Driving School

Cliff gave the group an update on Leigh Gill's Advanced Driving school and the recent trip there with members of the Executive Committee in which they were active participants. The consensus of the group is that this type of program appears to have many possible benefits and if a funding (outside of the ECHS) is found to put a large number of students through such a program, then this working group should make the recommendation to the ECHS that funding though the ECHS be found to pay for a detailed analysis of the benefits of such a program.

Task III – Driver's Education

There were various discussions about the driver's education program and it was discussed that this is not a bad thing, but maybe it is not the best way to spend the \$30 million a year in order to have the most positive impact on the target audience. No final decision was made as to the direction the group should take in regards to this program

Rob mentioned that there is a forthcoming AASHTO guide on Young Drivers.

It was suggested that the group examine what is being done in other countries (such as Australia, Sweden) in this area.

Task IV – What's Next

Steve mentioned to the group that the DOT has pending legislation focusing on its secondary roads program which is currently funded at about \$180 million per year. The legislation would allow the Department to transition out of the approach of paving all secondary roads to improving secondary roads. In 2006 the first \$68 million would be based upon the total number of miles of secondary roads and would allow for more "Moving Ahead" type of projects. Many of these would/could address the very issues faced by this working group. By the year 2010/2022 all of the program funding would be based upon secondary road miles.

Ruben asked how long this group was to be up and running. Cliff responded by saying there were no set deadlines. That as long as the working groups had issues that could be addressed, then they should continue to move forward. If the group reaches a point where time is needed for strategies to be implemented and have time to take effect, then the group can pull back a bit to allow these to take effect and then make a decision as to the next step. However, with nearly 70% of our fatalities to date this year being lane departure related, this group ahs plenty of challenges ahead of it.

See Action Items for Group Assignments.

Action Items:

Name	Item
Group	It was suggested that each present member think about who could be added to this working group to bring new ideas to the table and help the group accomplish it's goals.
	If anyone thinks of a potential new member, please invite them to the next meeting.
Group	Research ideas for potential new strategies. Be prepared to discuss these at the next meeting and even bring a draft copy with you.
Steve	Select group co-chair.

NEXT MEETING: August 9, 2005 at 1:00, TMC Conference Room